Claims:

1. A peptide selected from the group:
CRAHSFGSPRPLPVV (SEQ ID NO:1),
SRAHSFGSPRPLPVV (SEQ ID NO:2),
CRAHSFVSPRPLPVV (SEQ ID NO:3), and
QPDPHLMMWKLPGFP (SEQ ID NO:4).

2. A variant peptide which is a variant of a peptide according to claim 1, which variant has one, two, three or four amino acid substitutions, insertions or deletions with respect to said peptide wherein the variant peptide is capable of modulating a fibrin fragment E activity.

3. A variant peptide according to claim 2 wherein the variant has one or two amino acid substitutions, insertions or deletions with respect to said peptide.

4. A fragment of a peptide selected from the group:
CRAHSFGSPRPLPVV (SEQ ID NO:1),
SRAHSFGSPRPLPVV (SEQ ID NO:2),
CRAHSFVSPRPLPVV (SEQ ID NO:3), and
QPDPHLMMWKLPGFP (SEQ ID NO:4);

wherein said fragment is capable of modulating a fibrin fragment E activity.

5. A fragment according to claim 4 wherein said fragment is of 5 to 15 amino acids in length.

6. A fragment according to claim 5 wherein said fragment is from 8 to 11 amino acids in length.

7. A variant peptide which is a variant of a fragment according to claim 6, which variant has one, two, three or four amino acid substitutions, insertions or deletions with respect to said fragment wherein the variant peptide is capable of modulating a fibrin fragment E activity.

8. A variant peptide which is a variant of a fragment according to claim 5 or claim 6, which variant has one or two amino acid substitutions, insertions or deletions with respect to said fragment wherein the variant peptide is capable of modulating a fibrin fragment E activity.

9. A variant peptide which is a variant of a fragment according to claim 8, which variant has one amino acid substitution, insertion or deletion with respect to said fragment wherein the variant peptide is capable of modulating a fibrin fragment E activity.

10. A peptide or fragment according to any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein said activity is stimulation of cell proliferation or angiogenesis.

11. A fusion peptide which comprises a first portion having the amino acid sequence of a peptide or fragment defined in any one of claims 1 to 10 and a second portion, attached to the N- or C-terminus of the first portion, which comprises a sequence of amino acids not naturally contiguous to the first portion, said second portion comprising a membrane translocation sequence.

12. An isolated nucleic acid encoding a peptide or fragment according to any one of the preceding claims.

13. An antibody or binding fragment capable of selectively binding to a peptide or fragment according to any one of claims 1 to 10.

14. An antibody according to claim 13 which is a monoclonal antibody, a polyclonal antibody or antiserum.

15. A method of identifying a compound capable of modulating a fibrin fragment E activity, which compound is a peptide or an analog thereof, wherein said method comprises the steps of:
providing an antibody or binding fragment according to claim 13;
contacting said antibody or binding fragment with a putative modulator compound; and
determining whether said antibody or binding fragment is able to selectively bind to the compound.

16. A method according to claim 15 wherein the compound is provided in the form of an expression or chemical library.

17. The method according to claim 15 or claim 16 further comprising the step of testing the ability of the modulator to modulate fibrin fragment E induced cell proliferation and/or angiogenesis.

18. A process for producing a modulator comprising the step of identifying the modulator according to the method of any one of claims 15, 16 or 17.

19. A modulator of fibrin fragment E activity identified by the method according to any one of claims 15, 16 or 17.

20. Use of an antibody or binding fragment according to claim 13 in a method of identifying the active site of the fibrin fragment E receptor.

21. A composition comprising a peptide or fragment thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 11 or a modulator according to claim 19 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

22. A coronary stent comprising a peptide or fragment thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 11, a modulator according to claim 19 or a composition according to claim 21.

23. A method of inhibiting stimulation of cell proliferation induced by fibrin fragment E comprising bringing the cell into contact with a peptide according to any one of claims 1 to 11, a modulator according to claim 19 or a composition according to claim 21.

24. A method according to claim 15 wherein said activity is stimulation of cell proliferation or angiogenesis.

25. A peptide according to any one of claims 1 to 11, a modulator according to claim 19 or a composition according to claim 21 for use in a method of treatment of the human or animal body.

26. Use of a peptide according to any one of claims 1 to 11, a modulator according to claim 19 or a composition according to claim 21 in the preparation of a medicament for the inhibition of cell proliferation

27. An expression vector comprising an isolated nucleic acid as defined in claim 12 operably linked to a promoter.

28 A host cell carrying a vector according to claim 27.

29. A nucleic acid primer consisting essentially of a sequence of between about 15 to 50 nucleotides encoding a peptide according to any one of claims 1 to 11.